

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-8 remain pending in this application and stand rejected. The undersigned held a telephonic interview with the Examiner on 1/19/2007 to discuss the rejections. During the interview, the undersigned pointed out that the Examiner is mistaken in asserting that "Bryan is evidence that an electro-optic sensor (modulator) is an electro-optic display". As is well known, a display device displays information in response to, for example, a voltage or current stimuli, whereas a sensor generates a signal in response to a property of a sample or object being sensed or detected. For example, a motion sensor senses motion, a chemical sensor senses the presence of specific chemicals or classes of chemicals. An LED or LCD watch display is driven by a clock chip to display time and a television displays images in response to received broadcasted signals. An electro-optic sensor is not an electro-optic display, contrary to the Examiner's assertions.

As has been pointed out by the applicant, Holman is directed at an electro-optic display and not "an electro-optical sensor", as recited in claim 1. As is well known, to operate properly, light-transmissive substrate 110 (Fig.1) of Holman must be thin to enable light to pass through it to enable viewing. In contrast, as is also well known, the glass substrate in an electro-optical sensor must be sufficiently thick (substantially thicker than those used in electro-optic displays) to maintain a fixed distance between the electro-optical sensor (modulator) and a plate positioned below the glass substrate in order to enable capacitive measurement of voltage variations over a relatively large area. In other words, the light-transmissive substrate 110 of Holman is too thin--and thus too flexible-- to provide a uniform thickness to serve as an area capacitive sensor. Because Hollman is not directed at and is thus silent on an electro-optical sensor material, it teaches away from using a thick glass substrate that is required for the "electro-optical sensor" of claim 1. In other words, light-transmissive substrate 110 of Hollman would not be able to operate as a "glass substrate" in an "electro-optical sensor", as recited in claim 1. Therefore, Holman, whether taken alone, or in combination with Bryan, Zuchowski (US 6483643) and Haas et al (US 5,153,759), fails to teach pr suggest claim 1.

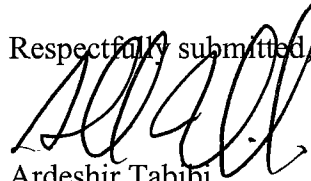
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Reply to Final Office Action of October 16, 2006

PATENT

During the interview, the Examiner proposed that claim 1 be amended to recite, in part, "coating a composition of electro-optic sensor material as a layer over the transparent electrode without using a transfer substrate". Applicant has amended claim 1 in accordance with the Examiner's proposal.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at (650) 752-2424.

Respectfully submitted,



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